

Boston 2:00-to-6:00 News

Volume 1, Issue 4

January 2000



The mission of the Boston 2:00-to-6:00 After-School Initiative is to support the expansion of quality after-school programs across the City of Boston to provide new learning and social development opportunities for children.

Staff:

Jennifer Davis, Executive Director

Katie Brown, Executive Assistant
Joe Levinger, Resource Development Manager
Laureen Wood, Public Policy Coordinator
Marinell Yoders, Senior Program Manager

Publisher:

Boston 2:00-to-6:00
Office of the Mayor
Boston City Hall
Room 708
Boston, MA 02201
Tel: (617) 635-2098
Fax: (617) 635-2026
www.cityofboston.com/2to6

Special Issue: The City of Boston's Role in Supporting After-School Programming

Mayor's Column

As we begin the new millenium, providing children with safe, creative learning opportunities during after-school hours remains one of my top priorities. To that end, over the last two years I have outlined the following goals for the Boston 2:00-to-6:00 Initiative:

- Expand after-school programming in every neighborhood of Boston;
- Leverage new resources to support programs;
- Coordinate the opening of school facilities in which programs can operate;
- Focus on helping to improve the quality of programs; and
- Link program content more directly to the Boston Public Schools' learning goals.

In partnership with many community-based organizations, multiple City agencies are working toward these goals. The focus of this special edition of *Boston 2:00-to-6:00 News* is to provide you with an overview of the many different ways that City agencies support after-school programming. For more information about any of these

programs or initiatives, please contact the appropriate staff person listed in the accompanying description.✂

Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

Overview

The following is an overview of the city agencies that support children during after-school hours:

Continued on Page 2

**Please fill out the
Boston 2:00-to-6:00 survey
on Page 8!**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Mayor's Column
- 2 City Agencies that Operate After-School Programs
- 2 City Agencies that both Operate and Fund After-School Programs
- 3 City Agencies that Fund After-School Programs
- 4 City Agencies that Support After-School Programs Through the Provision of In-Kind Services
- 6 City Agencies Supporting Children During After-School Hours
- 8 Boston 2:00-to-6:00 Survey

Director of Planning and Development, Boston Community Centers: (617) 635-4920, X2102.

Overview (Continued)

- Currently, three city agencies operate after-school programs: Boston Community Centers, the Boston Housing Authority, and Boston Public Libraries.
- Two city agencies operate, fund, and provide in-kind services to support after-school programs: Boston Public Schools and the Office of Community Partnerships.
- Three additional city agencies provide funding for after-school programs: the Office of Jobs and Community Services, the Boston Police Department, and Boston 2:00-to-6:00.
- Four city agencies support after-school programs through the provision of in-kind services: ReadBoston, the Emergency Shelter Commission (after-school snacks), the Public Health Commission, and the Parks and Recreation Department.
- Finally, a number of other city agencies play less direct roles, but are nevertheless crucial to the provision of quality after-school programs throughout the city.

City Agencies that Operate After-School Programs

Boston Community Centers

Boston Community Centers make up the largest human service provider in Boston, with 44 neighborhood-based facilities. Community Centers offer a wide range of after-school activities and services, including: 17 licensed school-age programs; more than 25 after-school tutoring/homework assistance programs; eight computer learning centers; 10 girls' programs; 27 peer leadership/youth advocacy programs; numerous enrichment classes (for example, dance, theatre arts, studio art instruction, and martial arts); and citywide athletic leagues and clinics (volleyball, swimming, basketball, tennis, double-dutch, etc.) Contact: Sandy Holden, Public Information Coordinator, Boston Community Centers: (617) 635-4920 X2213; or Daria Fanelli,

Boston Housing Authority

The Boston Housing Authority administers 19 drop-in center after-school programs for children who live in housing developments throughout the city. The programs offer homework assistance and recreational activities. Contact: Eric Mitchell, Assistant Director, Community Initiatives Department, Boston Housing Authority: (617) 988-4022.

Boston Public Libraries

The Boston Public Libraries offers the William Shiebler Homework Assistance Program for children in 3rd through 8th grades. The program is available two afternoons per week in each of the following 16 branches: Brighton, Charlestown, Codman Square, Connolly, Dudley, East Boston, Egleston, Faneuil, Grove Hall, Hyde Park, Lower Mills, Mattapan, South Boston, South End, Uphams Corner, and West Roxbury. Contact: Karen Duff, Coordinator of Children's and Young Adults' Services, Boston Public Libraries: (617) 536-5400 X385.

City Agencies that both Operate and Fund After-School Programs

Boston Public Schools

Of the 129 schools that comprise the Boston Public Schools (BPS), 57 elementary and middle schools are offering full-time after-school programs in the 1999-2000 school year. Over half of these programs are run by youth-serving organizations that partner with the schools. Many schools that offer their own programming utilize existing education funding, such as Title I and Chapter 636, to support after-school programs.

Continued on Page 3

Boston Public Schools (Continued)

The federal GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) initiative recently awarded BPS a five-year grant to support eight partnerships between higher education institutions and middle schools to provide tutors and other supports to help prepare students to finish high school and pursue future options. (See table on page 6.) Contact: Lisa Jackson, Director, GEAR UP, Boston Higher Education Partnership: (617) 426-0681 X14028.

Boston Public Schools and the Office of Community Partnerships

Boston Public Schools and the Office of Community Partnerships jointly administer the Boston Community Learning Centers Initiative, in partnership with such community-based organizations as Parents United for Child Care. The Initiative is funded by U.S. Department of Education 21st Century Community Learning Centers grants and Targeted Cities funding from the State. The Boston Community Learning Centers Initiative currently offers academic enrichment and youth and family support programming in eight elementary and middle schools throughout Boston. (See table on page 6). Contact: Maureen Harris, Assistant Director for Curriculum and Instruction, Boston Public Schools: (617) 635-9414; or Juanda Johnson-Taylor, Manager, Office of Children and Families: (617) 635-2130.

Office of Community Partnerships

The Office of Community Partnerships administers the Safe Neighborhood Youth Fund, which provides funding for community-based projects for children and youth, including after-school programs. Contact: Kevin Stanton, Youth Fund Manager, Office of Community Partnerships: (617) 635-2258.

The Office of Community Partnerships, through its Office for Children and Families, also offers grants for after-school program providers through its Child Care Quality Improvement Grants. (See table on page 6.) These grants enable childcare providers to acquire additional resources for projects designed to directly benefit the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of Boston's preschool children. Currently, funding is also included from Boston 2:00-to-6:00 to support school-age programs. Grants are up to \$5,000, and the deadline is January 21, 2000. Contact: Juanda Johnson-Taylor, Manager, Office of Children and Families: (617) 635-2130 or Marinell Yoders, Senior Program Manager, Boston 2:00-to-6:00 Initiative: (617) 635-2098.

City Agencies that Fund After-School Programs

Office of Jobs and Community Services

The Office of Jobs and Community Services (JCS) provides funding and services to empower Boston residents through education, training, career development, and human services. JCS provides grants available to after-school programs through its Community Development Block Grants program. During the 1998-99 funding cycle, of the 54 grants awarded to youth programs, 20 were awarded to support after-school programming. (See table on page 7.) Contact: Yvette Peake, Program Manager/Human Services, Office of Jobs and Community Services: (617) 918-5270; or Lynn Dever, Planner, Office of Jobs and Community Services: (617) 918-5233.

Boston Police Department

The mission of the Boston Police Department (BPD) is to work in partnership with the community to fight crime, reduce fear, and improve the quality of life in Boston's

Boston Police Department (Continued)

neighborhoods. The BPD provides Violence Prevention Grants to non-profit community-based organizations to work in collaboration with the police to prevent violence in their communities. Several of these grants have funded after-school programs. (See table on page 7.) Contact: Jennifer Williamson, Senior Policy Analyst, Boston Police Department: (617) 343-4904.

Boston 2:00-to-6:00

The city's FY 2000 budget included \$250,000 to support programs serving additional children and focusing on quality improvement. This funding will be distributed through the Child Care Quality Improvement Grants program, as well as Parents United for Child Care's Affordability Grants Program (see table on page 7). Contact: Marinell Yoders, Senior Program Manager, Boston 2:00-to-6:00: (617) 635-2098.

City Agencies that Support After-School Programs Through the Provision of In-Kind Services

ReadBoston

ReadBoston was created in order to ensure that all children in Boston are fluent readers by the end of the third grade. Through its Children's Literacy Network, ReadBoston provides consulting services to organizations wanting to integrate literacy into their ongoing work with children, ages 0-8 years. Sites must agree to create a literacy plan and devote staff time to centralized training. Call ReadBoston if interested in applying to join the Children's

Literacy Network in the spring. Contact: Hal Phillips, Field Coordinator, ReadBoston: (617) 918-5283.

Emergency Shelter Commission

The Emergency Shelter Commission, working with Boston 2:00-to-6:00 and community organizations, recently coordinated a major survey, and is currently implementing a strategy for ensuring that all Boston children receive nutritious snacks in their after-school programs. Contact: Ed Cameron, Hunger Coordinator, Emergency Shelter Commission: (617) 635-4507.

Public Health Commission

The mission of the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) is to protect, preserve, and promote the health and well being of Boston residents, particularly those who are most vulnerable. Through the Boston Community Learning Centers initiative, the BPHC is providing counseling, health education, violence prevention workshops, and nutrition workshops to three of the Boston Community Learning Center sites. Contact: Betty Holt, Program Director, Adolescent Wellness Program, Boston Public Health Commission: (617) 534-4557.

Additionally, the Boston Area Health Education Center (BAHEC), a program of the BPHC, provides academic enrichment and health promotion activities to middle and high school students during school hours and after school as well. The program is affiliated with the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester, as well as Boston Medical Center. The BAHEC's after-school program is housed on the Boston Medical Center Campus at 729 Massachusetts Avenue. The program is open to any Boston student who needs academic assistance or is interested in exploring a career in health. Contact: Michelle Urbano, Director, Boston Area Health Education Center: (617) 534-5258.

Continued on Page 5

Boston Parks and Recreation

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department oversees the 2,200 acres of park land in Boston, as well as offering a wide range of arts and athletic programming during after-school hours. Parks and Recreation works in partnership with community organizations to provide rich opportunities, including arts workshops, sports clinics, and competitions to children in neighborhood parks. Contact: Laurie Ciardi, Assistant Commissioner, Boston Parks and Recreation: (617) 635-4505.

In addition, Mayor Menino launched the Boston Youth Sports Congress in 1997, which is designed to set the course for the future of youth sports and organized physical activity in Boston. Since its inception, the Sports Congress has helped to facilitate the creation, expansion, and improvement of a number of youth sports facilities and programs in Boston. Contact: William Linehan, Operations Director, Boston Parks and Recreation: (617) 635-4463.

CONCLUSION

Agencies throughout the city are working diligently to promote and coordinate after-school programming and support. In order for us to best meet your needs, please take a moment to fill out the survey accompanying this newsletter. And as always, if you would like further information about any of the programs or agencies listed in this edition of *Boston 2:00-to-6:00 News*, please feel free to contact the staff person listed above or the Boston 2:00-to-6:00 office at (617) 635-2098.✂

City Agencies Supporting Children During After-School Hours

AGENCY	PROGRAM	DESCRIPTION	CONTACT	NEXT ROUND OF GRANTS
Boston Public Schools	GEAR UP	Funds support eight partnerships between higher education institutions and middle schools to provide tutors and other supports to help prepare students to finish high school and pursue college and careers.	Lisa Jackson, Director, GEAR UP, Boston Higher Education Partnership: (617) 426-0681 X14028	Future funding is uncertain at this time.
Boston Public Schools and the Office of Community Partnerships	Boston Community Learning Centers (funded by the 21 st Century Community Learning Centers Program)	Funds support three middle schools to provide extended services to the school and community through partnerships. Grants to each school average \$75,000. (Boston has received two separate 21 st Century grants.)	Maureen Harris, Assistant Director for Curriculum and Instruction, Boston Public Schools: (617) 635-9414	The deadline for BPS to apply to the federal Department of Education for another 21 st Century grant is March 20, 2000.
	Boston Community Learning Centers (funded by the State Targeted Cities initiative)	Funds support five schools in Roxbury and Dorchester to provide extended services to the school and community through partnerships. Average grant sizes are \$75,000.	Juanda Johnson-Taylor, Manager, Office of Children and Families: (617) 635-2130	No additional funding for new sites is available this year.
Office of Community Partnerships	Safe Neighborhood Youth Fund	Supports community-based projects to provide education and support to young people and their families. Grants are up to \$7,000.	Kevin Stanton, Youth Fund Manager, Office of Community Partnerships: (617) 635-2258	There are two funding cycles. The deadline for the first cycle is mid-April, and the deadline for the second cycle is mid-September.
	Child Care Quality Improvement Grants (FY2000 RFP also includes funding for school-age programs.)	Provides childcare providers with additional resources for projects designed to directly benefit the physical, social, emotional, and cognitive development of Boston's preschool children. The current round also includes funding from Boston 2:00-to-6:00 to support school-age programs. Grants are up to \$5,000.	Juanda Johnson-Taylor, Manager, Office of Children and Families: (617) 635-2130	The deadline is January 21, 2000.

City Agencies Supporting Children During After-School Hours (Continued)

Office of Jobs and Community Services	Community Development Block Grants	Funds essential human services activities, including after-school tutoring, for low- to moderate- income families. Grants range from \$12,000- \$100,000 annually.	Yvette Peake, Program Manager/Human Services, Office of Jobs and Community Services: (617) 918-5270; or Lynn Dever, Planner, Office of Jobs and Community Services: (617) 918-5233	A citywide hearing will be held on January 25 th at the Copley Branch of Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 6:30-8:30 p.m. The RFP will be available on January 28 th .
Boston Police Department	Violence Prevention Grant Program	Funds projects in partnership with the Police Department that work to prevent and reduce violence, including after-school programs. This year, grants of up to \$30,000 were awarded.	Jennifer Williamson, Senior Policy Analyst, Boston Police Department: (617) 343-4904	Funding for FY 2000 has not yet been announced.
Boston 2:00-to-6:00	Affordability Grants coordinated by Parents United for Child Care, and Child Care Quality Improvement Grants coordinated by the Office of Community Partnerships	Boston 2:00-to-6:00 is providing funds to Parents United for Child Care's Affordability Grants program and the Office for Community Partnerships' Child Care Quality Improvement Grants program. Funds for the Affordability Grants program support the expansion of affordable slots for school-age care programs, enabling programs to provide affordable fees to parents and increase the number of children served in school-age programs from low- and moderate-income families. For information on the Child Care Quality Improvement Grants program, please see that listing earlier in this chart.	Marinell Yoders, Senior Program Manager, Boston 2:00-to-6:00: (617) 635-2098	Funding for FY 2000 has not yet been announced.

Boston 2:00-to-6:00 Survey

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!

The Boston 2:00-to-6:00 office wants to provide you with the best possible resources. In order to help us improve our efforts, please fill out this survey and fax or mail it back to us at the fax number or address listed below. Thanks!

1. Are you interested in more in-depth information on any of the topics or programs that were presented in this edition of *Boston 2:00-to-6:00 News*? If so, what topics or programs would you like us to address in subsequent issues?
2. What additional services would you like the city to provide in order to help support your after-school program?
3. Do the Boston 2:00-to-6:00 newsletters provide you with useful information? ____ Yes ____ No
If no, how can we improve the content of our newsletters?
4. Do you use our website? (www.cityofboston.com/2to6) ____ Yes ____ No If so, what additional information would you like us to feature on our website?
5. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "not very responsive" and 5 being "highly responsive," how would you rate the Boston 2:00-to-6:00 office in filling your needs? ____ If our rating is low, how could we be more responsive to your needs?

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Please fax or mail this form to:

Joe Levinger, Resource Development Manager, Boston 2:00-to-6:00 After-School Initiative

Office of the Mayor, Boston City Hall, Room 708, Boston, MA 02201

Fax: (617) 635-2026